



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/765,657	01/26/2004	Richard Allen Kominsky	D-KML-0014 (ITT-0005)	1207
7590	02/02/2006		EXAMINER	
CANTOR COLBURN LLP 55 Griffin Road South Bloomfield, CT 06002				LUU, THANH X
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				2878

DATE MAILED: 02/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

B/

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/765,657	KOMINSKY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thanh X. Luu	2878	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 December 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 20 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-7 and 9-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 8 and 12-19 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to remarks filed December 27, 2005. Claims 1-20 are currently pending.

Claim Objections

1. Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 11, "the sensor" lacks proper antecedent basis.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ostromek et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0195547).

Regarding claims 9-11, Ostromek et al disclose (see Figs. 1-3) a system for viewing an object under low light conditions, comprising: an image intensifier tube (36 or 118) generating an image of the object; a power supply (44 or 114) providing power to the image intensifier tube; a gating module (110) coupled to the power supply, the gating module generating a spread-spectrum modulated gating signal (112) to the power supply to provide gated power to the image intensifier tube. That is, since the gating signal (112; see also Fig. 3) is multi-phased and is generated at multiple

frequencies, as understood, the gating signal is a spread-spectrum gating signal.

Ostromek et al. also disclose (see Fig. 1) a microchannel plate (48), and anode (50) and a photocathode sensor (18).

4. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by LTC6902 (LTC 6902 Multiphase Oscillator With Spread Spectrum Frequency Modulation).

Regarding claims 1-7, LTC6902 discloses (see page 7) a frequency generator (oscillator) generating a base signal having a base frequency; a modulator (oscillator) for spread-spectrum modulating the base frequency of the base signal to generate a modulated signal; and a gating circuit (wires or circuit coupled for output) coupled to the modulator, for generating a gating signal (output signal) in response to the modulated signal. As understood, "for gating an image intensifier tube" is intended use. LTC6902 also discloses (see Figs.) first, second resistors, and switches as claimed.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claim 20 is allowed over the prior art of record.

6. Claims 8 and 12-19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: a method for gating an image intensifier tube, as claimed, more specifically in combination with: generating a base frequency, spread-spectrum modulating the base frequency and generating a gating signal based on the modulated signal and applying

Art Unit: 2878

the gating signal to the image intensifier tube; or the gating circuit is a one-shot, is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh X. Luu whose telephone number is 571-272-2441. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:00AM-3:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Georgia Epps can be reached on 571-272-2328. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Thanh X Luu
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2878